

Document A

Source: Mount Rainier National Park
Administrative Staff*
June 2009

Note: The Preferred Options Comparison Chart offers the primary considerations involved in the decision-making process for the Carbon River Road Project.

*This is an abridged version, edited for the purposes of this DBQ.

Preferred Options Comparison Chart

See attached spreadsheet

Document Analysis

1. What types of information are presented in this document?
2. How would you list the Options in order of “least to most construction work.”
3. Rank the Options from “best for campers” to “worst for campers.”
4. Rank the Options from “best for hikers” to “worst for hikers.”
5. Rank the Options from “best for cars” to “worst for cars.”
6. Rank the Options “best to worst” for the role you are playing.
7. Without selecting (yet) which one you think is the best option, from **your** point of view, which do you think would be the worst option?

Document B

Source: United States Congress
National Park Service Organic Act
Enacted by Congress, Aug. 25, 1916

Note: The Organic Act states the official reason that Congress first established the National Park Service.

National Park Service Organic Act

The service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations hereinafter specified by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

Document Analysis

1. What is the “fundamental purpose” of the National Parks?
2. Do you see this as one purpose, two purposes, or three purposes?
3. How would proposed Option 1 for the Carbon River Road fit the Organic Act?
4. How would proposed Option 2 for the Carbon River Road fit the Organic Act?
5. How would proposed Option 3 for the Carbon River Road fit the Organic Act?
6. How would proposed Option 4 for the Carbon River Road fit the Organic Act?

Document C

Source: Mount Rainier National Park
Mount Rainier Master Plan
May 2007

Note: The Mount Rainier Master Plan was updated with this statement a few months after the November 2006 flood that destroyed major sections of Carbon River Road.

MOUNT RAINIER MASTER PLAN

Visitor Use and Development

Planning Approach: Carbon River-Ipsut Creek

This unique resource area of the park is particularly appropriate for the immediate implementation of a visitor circulation system using vehicles other than automobiles. Unlike the loop road accesses to the heavily visited areas of the park, access to this area is by dead-end road.

Foot, bicycle, and possibly a mini-bus will provide access through the Carbon River rain forest, and to the Ipsut Creek area, from a parking area at the park boundary. In other respects this area will function as at present.

Document Analysis

1. What is different about the Carbon River Road compared to other roads of Mount Rainier?
2. Is this document a statement of fact, or an idea for the future? And how can you tell?
3. What does this document call for?
4. How would proposed Option 1 fit the updated Master Plan?
5. How would proposed Option 2 fit the updated Master Plan?
6. How would proposed Option 3 fit the updated Master Plan?
7. How would proposed Option 4 fit the updated Master Plan?

Document D

Source: National Park Service
National Park Service Management Policies
Updated 2006

Note: The Endangered Species Act is the federal law that protects animals and plants and their critical habitat that are endangered by human development.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Natural Resource Management, Section 4.4.2.3

The Service will survey for, protect, and strive to recover all species native to national park system units that are listed under the Endangered Species Act. ... The Service will manage designated critical habitat, essential habitat, and recovery areas to maintain and enhance their value for the recover of threatened and endangered species.

Document Analysis

1. What does this document say the National Park Service will do for plants and animals?
2. What makes this document especially important?
3. How would proposed Option 1 fit Natural Resource Management policy?
4. How would proposed Option 2 fit Natural Resource Management policy?
5. How would proposed Option 3 fit Natural Resource Management policy?
6. How would proposed Option 4 fit Natural Resource Management policy?

Document E

Source: Mount Rainier National Park
General Management Plan
Updated August 2001

Note: The General Plan for a national park is completed every 20 years.

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN Environmental Impact Statement

Park Mission (Page 12): Access and Enjoyment

The park will be managed to provide the nation's diverse public with access to and recreational and educational enjoyment of the lessons contained in Mount Rainier National Park, while maintaining unimpaired those unique attributes that are its contributions to the national park system.

Goal 1: *Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities at Mount Rainier National Park.*

Goal 2: *Gateway communities are encouraged to provide services and facilities that assist visitors in enjoying and understanding park values and minimize impacts on park resources.*

Document Analysis

1. In your own words, describe the Park's two goals relating to "Access and Enjoyment."
2. What is meant by "the nation's diverse public?"
3. What is meant by "recreational and educational enjoyment of the lessons" of Mount Rainier?
4. How would this document fit proposed Option 1 for the Carbon River Road?
5. How would this document fit proposed Option 2 for the Carbon River Road?
6. How would this document fit proposed Option 3 for the Carbon River Road?
7. How would this document fit proposed Option 4 for the Carbon River Road?

Document F

Source: Mount Rainier National Park
General Management Plan
Updated August 2001

Note: The General Plan for a national park is completed every 20 years.

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Surveys of Park Visitors (Johnson 1991; BRW 1995; Vande Kamp 1996; Johnson & Vande Camp 1998)

Most frequently identified by visitors as "favorite activities"

<i>Driving to view the scenery</i>	<i>80 percent</i>
<i>Taking photographs</i>	<i>59 percent</i>
<i>Visitor centers/museums</i>	<i>58 percent</i>
<i>Day hiking</i>	<i>51 percent</i>
<i>Observing wildlife</i>	<i>47 percent</i>
<i>Viewing wildflowers</i>	<i>46 percent</i>
<i>Picnicking</i>	<i>30 percent</i>
<i>Souvenir shopping</i>	<i>35 percent</i>

Most Popular Wilderness Trails

- 1. Naches Loop Trail*
- 2. Ipsut Creek to Carbon Glacier**
- 3. Comet Falls*
- 4. Snow Lake*
- 5. Pinnacle Peak*
- 6. Fryingpan Creek to Summerland*
- 7. Summerland to Indian Bar*
- 8. Glacier Basin*
- 9. Spray Park**
- 10. Carbon Glacier to Mystic Lake**

**Note: Accessible from Ipsut Creek Trailhead
at end of Carbon River Road*

Peak season traffic counts at park entrances

<i>Nisqually</i>	<i>46 percent</i>
<i>Stevens Canyon</i>	<i>20 percent</i>
<i>White River/Sunrise</i>	<i>23 percent</i>
<i>Carbon River</i>	<i>11 percent</i>

Average visitor time spent:

<i>Ipsut Creek</i>	<i>4.5 hours</i>
<i>Paradise</i>	<i>2.5-3.5 hours</i>
<i>Sunrise</i>	<i>2.5 hours</i>

Document Analysis (see back page)

Document F (continued)

Source: Mount Rainier National Park
General Management Plan
Surveys of Park Visitors

Document Analysis

1. Which of the “favorite activities” are most important to you (in your role) at Mount Rainier?
2. Which of the “favorite activities” listed are least important to you?
3. Which of these data tables do you think is most interesting, and why?
4. From the data in these four tables, offer two conclusions that include data or information from at least two of the tables.

Conclusion 1)

Conclusion 2)

Document G

Source: Mount Rainier National Park
January 2008

History of Carbon River Road Flooding

See attached PDF file

Document Analysis

1. This graphic tells of the major floods of the Carbon River Road. What are three observations you can make from this graphic?

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2. How can this data support Option #1?

3. How can this data support Option #4?